return to the chaotic condition in which each worker is left to propound his own personal scheme. An authoritative English version of the revised series of tests would do much to correct this centrifugal tendency. W. C. S.

Finot, JEAN. *Problems of the Sexes.* (Translated by Mary Safford). London. David Nutt; 1913; price 12s. 6d. net; pp. 408.

THE author of this book—here capably translated into English—is well known as the editor of "La Revue." He is also an accomplished and facile publicist, who has written numerous books dealing with the future of society in an ardently humanitarian and optimistic spirit. The present work, which is an enthusiastic defence of feminism, has its place in this series. M. Finot commands an excellent journalistic manner; he is well-informed; he is intelligent; he is very hopeful; and although his feminism is of a thorough-going character—claiming complete social equality with men for the woman of the future, and declaring that only thus can peace and harmony be brought into the world—he is careful to assure us that feminism will involve no regrettable improprieties. These are excellent qualifications, no doubt, for writing about the problems of the sexes, and to those readers who find them sufficing this book may be warmly commended.

Those readers who are not content with the rhapsodical and rhetorical method, however eloquent, of dealing with social problems, and demand more scientific treatment, will be less satisfied with M. Finot's book. He covers, indeed, much scientific ground, with a minimum of acknowledgment to his authorities and a maximum of supercilious superiority, but although he is too intelligent to fall into gross absurdities, he shows no ability to appreciate complex problems or to understand their wider biological aspects. It is amusingly characteristic of the author's instinctively rhetorical method that he refers to the trivial differences in the entirely colourless experiments of physiological psychologists concerning the comparative sensory acuteness of men and women as attempts to "laud" or to "taunt" women.

The author's journalistic training leads him to dwell on such alluringly popular topics as the physical beauty of the future woman and her conception of love, but the future woman's relation to the race is dismissed with a few platitudes, and to the grave problems of eugenics there is not from first to last a single reference. HAVELOCK ELLIS.

Semple, ELLEN CHURCHILL. *Influences of Geographic Environment: On the basis of Ratzel's System of Anthropo-geography.* London. Constable and Co., Ltd.; 1911; 18s. net.

IT is hardly necessary, at this time of day, to seek to estimate the general value of Miss Semple's book as a contribution to knowledge, seeing that already it is widely known and accepted as a sound and useful piece of scientific work. Suffice it to say, then, on this head, that it is eminently suitable for use as a manual by the somewhat advanced student of human geography; whereas, for the purposes of the mere beginner, it is perhaps a little too heavily ballasted with details. Moreover, it may be read with great profit by any votary of the social sciences, who will be cheered on his way by a clear and forcible style of writing; Miss Semple having wisely disregarded Teutonic models in this by no means negligible respect.

Here, however, it will be more to the point to consider the interest which such a line of research may have for the eugenist. In a sense anthropo-geography and eugenics enter the scientific field as rival combatants. No one, of course, doubts that the geographic "control" counts for something in the shaping of human history; any more than it can be doubted that descent counts for something, too. Rather, it is a question of emphasis. The eugenist tends to treat breed, the

anthropo-geographer *habitat*, as all-in-all. Apart from the party spirit and downright bias incidental to the division of scientific labour, there exists a real and legitimate difference of opinion amongst the most broad-minded students of man concerning the relative importance of these two factors. Indeed, from the eugenist point of view, the whole problem of the conditions of human evolution resolves itself into an affair of two factors and two only, namely, " nature " and " nurture," or, to put it rather more technically, race and environment. The anthropo-geographer, however, is not the sole representative of the principle of environment—as sometimes he imagines himself to be. There are not only physical or geographic, but likewise moral influences to be reckoned with in this connexion. In other words, *habitat* and culture make up environment between them; and the endeavour on the part of some anthropo-geographers to explain culture as a mere function of *habitat* is, to say the least, premature in the present state of our knowledge. Meanwhile, it is clearly the duty of all serious students of any of these separate aspects of man's development to keep alive all the while the hope of eventual synthesis. Thus the eugenist, in particular, cannot afford to forget that, even if it be possible for working purposes to treat race in isolation from environment up to a certain point, there is need beyond that limit of grappling with the ultimate difficulty how environment affects race by way of the germ-plasm; for it were surely worthy of the age of miracles to believe that the sources of all variation lie within the germ-plasm itself. So much, then, as regards the general orientation of the eugenist towards the principle of environment.

It only remains to add that Miss Semple possesses in a high degree the saving grace of moderation. Hence, fully aware as she is of the fact that anthropo-geographers in the past have occasionally brought more zeal than discretion to their task, she does not put her strength into ventilating the larger and vaguer claims of her subject, so much as into driving home its most certain lessons by means of copious illustration. After performing the grand tour of the world under her guidance, one is left with the impression that man's response, whether measured in terms of body or of soul, to certain geographic influences, such as climate, is remarkably uniform throughout. It would look on the face of it almost as if man's natural capacities were in their broader features relatively stable, as if he represented a " mutation " thrown off, so to say, once for all. If it were so, the eugenist's province would be confined to the control of the details of this special accommodation or that—no small matter, however, as regards the happiness of those concerned. But other eugenists may well get another kind of impression from Miss Semple's book; and, however this may be, it will in any case set them thinking. R. R. MARETT.

Münsterberg, HUGO. *Social Studies of To-day*. London. T. Fisher Unwin; 1913; pp. 262.

THIS volume, which appears to be the third its author has turned out this year, is made up of articles reprinted from popular magazines in America. It contains no reference to eugenics, but the account of the American reporter's guile, unscrupulousness, and inaccuracy is not unamusing. The professor describes himself as falling an easy victim, thus showing that in psychology also the theorist is no match for the practitioner. F. C. S. SCHILLER.